DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 135 563 RC 009 728

AUTHOR Sofranko, Andrew J.; Moorhead, Carol L.
TITLE Recent Population Changes in Illinois. Community Resource Development (CRD)-2.
INSTITUTION Illinois Univ., Urbana. Cooperative Extension Service.
SPONS AGENCY Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C.
REPORT NO CRD-2
PUB DATE 76
NOTE 15p.; Not available in hard copy due to small print size of original document

EDRS PRICE MF-$0.83 Plus Postage. HC Not Available from EDRS.
DESCRIPTORS Comparative Analysis; *National Norms; *Population Growth; *Population Trends; *Rural Urban Differences; *Statistical Data; *Urban to Rural Migration
IDENTIFIERS *Illinois

ABSTRACT

National data show that between 1970 and 1974 nonmetropolitan counties grew at a faster rate (1.4% per year) than metropolitan counties (0.6% per year). Factors contributing to this reversal in population trends are: decentralization of U.S. industry; movement of the retired urban elderly to rural and retirement areas; stabilization of the population remaining in agriculture; and the "pull" exerted by state universities and community colleges in nonmetropolitan areas. Compared with population changes at national and regional levels, Illinois is a mixed case. On the one hand, many of the counties which were formerly losing population, are experiencing a turnaround. At the same time, many Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area (SMSA) counties are showing considerable population growth, especially those in the Chicago, Springfield, Bloomington-Normal, and Peoria SMSA's. Unlike the region and the nation, however, the total population of Illinois has grown very little since 1970 (0.2%). The nonmetropolitan population of the state has grown more than the SMSA population, but not a great deal more. Thus, while Illinois exhibits some of the population reversals documented at the national and regional levels, it can more accurately be characterized as a case of very limited reversals or even one of stabilization at the present time. (JC)

****
* Documents acquired by ERIC include many informal unpublished *
* materials not available from other sources. ERIC makes every effort *
* to obtain the best copy available. Nevertheless, items of marginal *
* reproducibility are often encountered and this affects the quality *
* of the microfiche and hardcopy reproductions ERIC makes available *
* via the ERIC Document Reproduction Service (EDRS). EDRS is not *
* responsible for the quality of the original document. Reproductions *
* supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made from the original. *
****

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

ED1355563

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
EDUCATION & WELFARE
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF
EDUCATION

THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN REPRODUCED EXACTLY AS RECEIVED FROM THE PERSON OR ORGANIZATION ORIGINATING IT. POINTS OF VIEW OR OPINIONS STATED DO NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENT OFFICIAL NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION POSITION OR POLICY

Recent Population Changes in Illinois

Andrew J. Sofranko

RC009728

CRD-2
COMMUNITY RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

2

This report was prepared by Andrew J. Sofranko, associate professor of Rural Sociology, U.I. Department of Agricultural Economics, assisted by Carol L. Moorhead, Extension assistant, University of Illinois Cooperative Extension Service.

Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension Work, Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. JOHN B. CLAAR, director, Cooperative Extension Service University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The Illinois Cooperative Extension Service provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.

500-1/76

Recent Population Changes in Illinois

Analyses of recent Bureau of the Census county estimates of population are beginning to reveal some interesting reversals of long-term population trends in the United States. For several decades, large, urban SMSA (Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area)[1] centers and the counties in which they were located represented the real growth centers of the nation. On the average, and at the expense of nonmetropolitan counties, SMSA counties grew much faster than these counties through massive rural to urban migration. For example, in the 1960-70 decade SMSA's grew by an average of 1.3 percent each year and non-SMSA's by 0.8 percent.[2] Now, however, this trend has been at least temporarily halted, and in many areas it has been reversed. Between 1970 and 1974 national data show that nonmetropolitan counties grew at a faster rate (1.4 percent per year) than metropolitan counties (0.6 percent per year).

To illustrate the depth of the reversal, between 1970 and 1974 even those counties which were not adjacent to

---

[1] An SMSA, defined by the Federal Office of Management and Budget (OMB), is a county or group of contiguous counties which contain at least one city of 50,000 inhabitants or more, or "twin cities" with a combined population of at least 50,000. In addition to the county or counties, containing such a city or cities, contiguous counties are included in an SMSA if, according to certain criteria, they are socially and economically integrated with the central city.

[2] C. C. Roseman, 1975. Population redistribution in the United States and in Illinois. Ill. Bus. Rev. 32:6.

metropolitan counties grew more rapidly than the adjacent ones. This reversal in a long-term trend has led Calvin Beale, demographer for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, to conclude: "In the eyes of many Americans, the appeal of major urban areas has diminished in recent years and the attractiveness of rural and small town communities has increased."[3]

POPULATION REVERSAL FACTORS

While there are still declining nonmetropolitan counties, especially in heavily agricultural areas, they have recently shown an enhanced capacity for retaining and attracting population. This reversal has been attributed to many factors.

In large part, it is the result of broad social changes that have taken place over the past decade. These include: (a) decentralization of industry in the U.S., (b) movement of retired urban elderly to nonmetropolitan and retirement areas, (c) stabilization of the population remaining in agriculture, and (d) "pull" exerted on individuals by state universities and community colleges in many nonmetropolitan counties.[4] Undoubtedly, there has been some effect attributable to reviving certain extractive industries, such as coal mining, and other rural-based energy-related industries. The location, relocation, and closing of federal facilities and institutions have had their effect on nonmetropolitan growth, as well.

ILLINOIS POPULATION CHANGES, 1960-1970 and 1970-1974: A COMPARISON

Population changes in Illinois counties between 1970 and 1974 are illustrated in Figure 1.[5] Probably the most

---

[3]C. L. Beale, 1975. Renewed growth in rural communities. The Futurist 9:196.

[4]Ibid. 196-202.

[5]U.S. Bureau of the Census. Estimates of the population of Illinois counties and metropolitan counties. Current Population Reports. P-26, No. 128. Revised July 1, 1974.

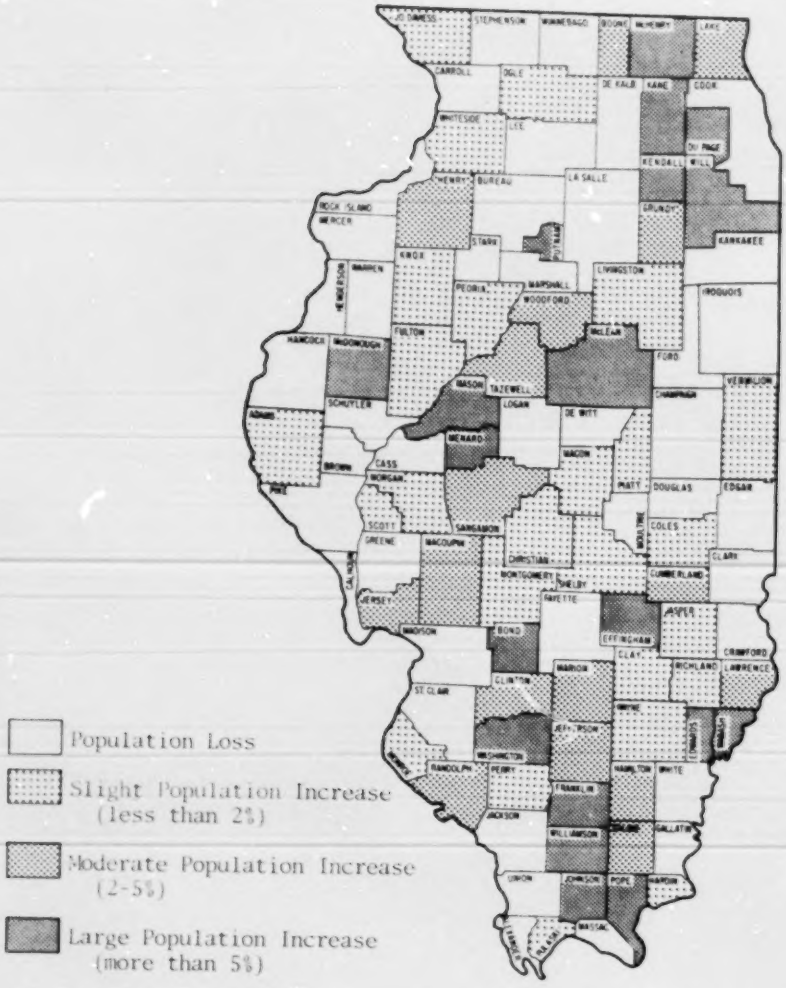
Population Loss
Slight Population Increase (less than 2%)
Moderate Population Increase (2-5%)
Large Population Increase (more than 5%)

Figure 1. Illinois population changes, 1970-1974. U.S. Bureau of the Census (1974).

striking observation is that about one-half of the counties (Table 1) experiencing "large increases" (over 5 percent) in population are in the southern part of the state, an area which traditionally has experienced high levels of out-migration and population decline. In fact, the county with the largest population increase between 1970 and 1974 was Johnson (15.5 percent) in the extreme southern part of the state. However, unlike many other southern Illinois nonmetropolitan counties, Johnson had not been losing population between 1960 and 1970. Rather, it grew by 9 percent and, so far in the 1970's, it has exceeded its growth in the previous decade.

Five southern Illinois counties (Bond, Franklin, Pope, Edwards, and Wabash), which lost population between 1960 and 1970, show large reversals between 1970 and 1974. Other counties with large population increases are five of the SMSA counties surrounding Cook County; counties that also had high levels of growth in the 1960's. Thus, while there is evidence of the national reversal in some Illinois counties, it is limited. Clearly, several southern Illinois counties are still losing population, and several of the Chicago SMSA counties continue to grow rapidly.

Using the same coding key as in Figure 1, population changes in Illinois counties over the past four years can be compared with those between 1960 and 1970 (Figure 2). A certain amount of caution must be exercised in comparing changes over a decade with those occurring over a four-year period, but it should, nevertheless, permit some rough comparison of the reversals and trend continuations that have already been discussed. With few exceptions, Illinois population growth between 1960 and 1970 reflected national and regional changes, namely a population growth in and around SMSA areas. The counties that were exceptions can be accounted for largely by the location of universities in nonmetropolitan counties (beginning in 1950, students were counted in university towns) or location of nonmetro counties near major transportation networks such as the interstate highway system.

In order to observe county population changes in the two time periods simultaneously, Figure 3 can be studied. Counties growing in both the 1960-70 and 1970-74 periods

Table 1. Percent Population Change for Illinois Counties, 1970-1974*

Johnson	15.8	Marion	2.0	Union	-0.7
Will	12.9	Randolph	2.0	Iroquois	-0.8
Kendall	12.8	Peoria	1.8	Mercer	-0.9
Pope	10.3	Perry	1.6	Cass	-1.0
McHenry	10.2	Shelby	1.6	Winnebago	-1.1
DuPage	9.6	Clay	1.4	Edgar	-1.2
McLean	9.5	Fulton	1.3	DeWitt	-1.3
Menard	8.9	Vermilion	1.2	Kankakee	-1.4
Mason	8.7	Wayne	1.2	Crawford	-1.5
Effingham	7.9	Montgomery	0.9	Marshall	-1.5
McDonough	7.8	Hardin	0.8	Gallatin	-1.6
Putnam	7.0	Morgan	0.8	DeKalb	-1.7
Franklin	6.8	Richland	0.7	Moultrie	-1.7
Bond	6.5	Christian	0.6	St. Clair	-1.7
Edwards	5.9	Jasper	0.6	Brown	-1.9
Williamson	5.6	Jo Daviess	0.6	Massac	-1.9
Wabash	5.5	Monroe	0.6	Cook	-2.2
Kane	5.2	Ogle	0.6	LaSalle	-2.2
Washington	5.1	Pulaski	0.6	Greene	-2.3
Cumberland	5.0	Coles	0.5	Henderson	-2.4
Tazewell	4.5	Knox	0.5	Rock Island	-2.4
Clinton	4.4	Piatt	0.5	Stephenson	-2.5
Boone	4.1	Whiteside	0.5	Carroll	-2.7
Woodford	4.1	Livingston	0.2	Schuyler	-2.9
Grundy	3.7	Macon	0.2	Calhoun	-3.2
Jefferson	3.5	Scott	0.2	Stark	-4.5
Sangamon	3.5	Adams	0.1	Alexander	-4.6
Lake	3.1	Douglas	0	Jackson	-4.6
Jersey	2.9	Pike	0	Bureau	-4.7
Hamilton	2.7	Warren	0	White	-5.1
Macoupin	2.5	Champaign	-0.2	Hancock	-5.4
Lawrence	2.3	Fayette	-0.2	Lee	-6.1
Saline	2.2	Clark	-0.4	Logan	-7.2
Henry	2.0	Madison	-0.6	Ford	-8.7

*Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1974.

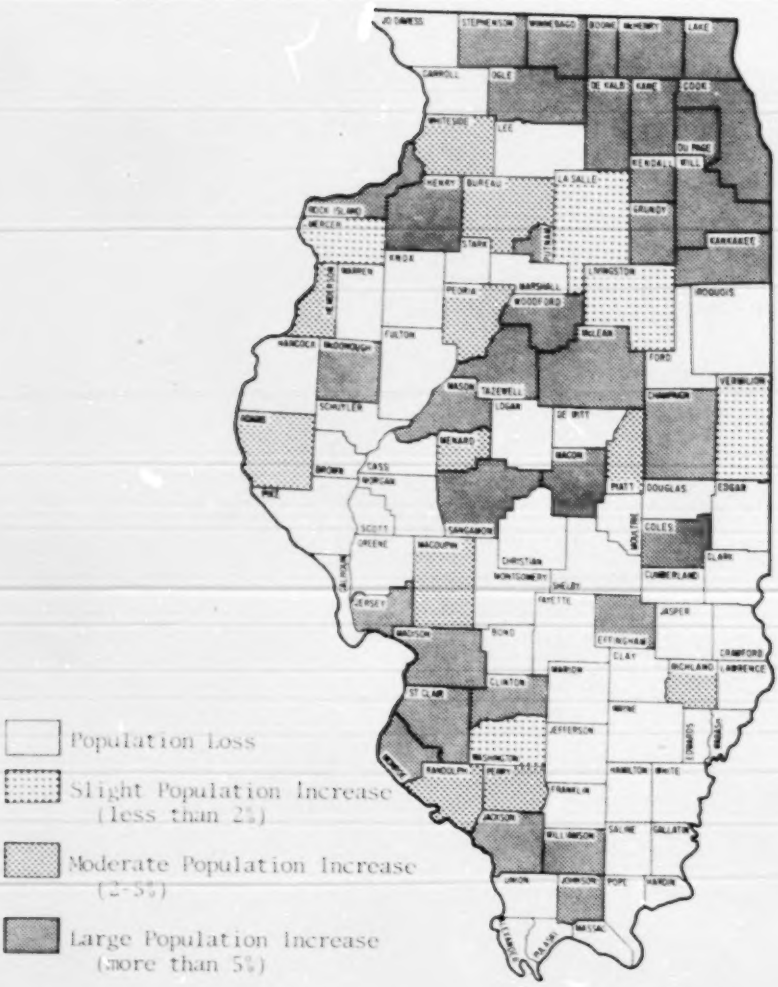
Population Loss
Slight Population Increase (less than 2%)
Moderate Population Increase (2-5%)
Large Population Increase (more than 5%)

Figure 2. Illinois population changes, 1960-1970. U.S. Bureau of the Census (1970 and 1974).

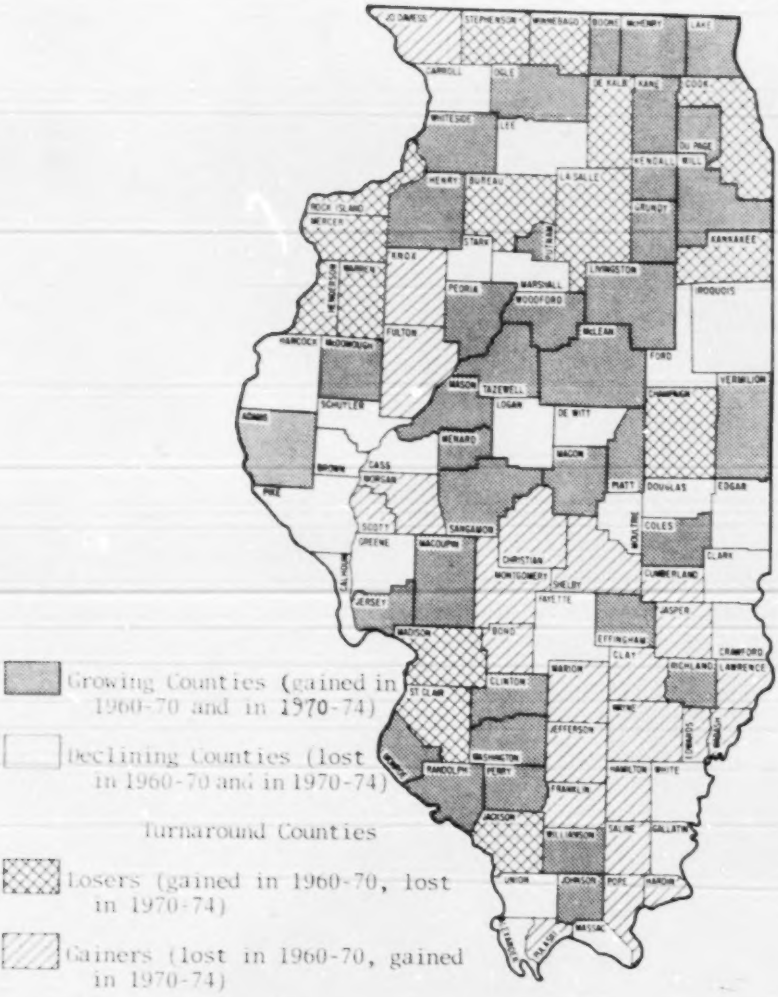
Growing Counties (gained in 1960-70 and in 1970-74)
Declining Counties (lost in 1960-70 and in 1970-74)
Turnaround Counties
Losers (gained in 1960-70, lost in 1970-74)
Gainers (lost in 1960-70, gained in 1970-74)

Figure 3. County population comparisons for Illinois: 1960-1970 and 1970-1974.

are identified as "growing" counties; those losing population in both periods are identified as "declining." In addition, there are two types of "turnaround" counties: the "losers," which gained population between 1960 and 1970 but have been losing thus far in the 1970's, and the "gainers," which lost in the 1960-70 period but have grown in population since 1970.

The "declining" counties are located primarily in the western and southeastern portions of the state. Most "growing" counties are SMSA and adjacent counties. Between 1960 and 1970, for example, all 22 SMSA counties grew, and in the last four years 16 have maintained this growth. In the 1960-70 period about half (47 percent) of the adjacent counties gained population. Since 1970, 50 percent have grown. Between 1960 and 1970 only a fourth of the nonadjacent counties grew, but since 1970, 57 percent have grown. Considering both time periods (1960-70 and 1970-74), 73 percent of the SMSA counties, 33 percent of the adjacent counties and 19 percent of nonadjacent counties have grown. Thus we see that county location relative to an SMSA is still an important factor determining whether or not it grows.

Consistent with national and regional trends, most of the turnaround counties, which are now gaining population, are in the nonmetropolitan southern third of Illinois. The turnaround "losers" are largely SMSA counties, which have recently experienced population declines: Champaign-Urbana, Rock Island-Moline, Rockford, and St. Louis.

However, two considerations must be kept in mind. First, all of the declines in these Illinois SMSA's have been small; only the Rock Island-Moline decline exceeds 1 percent at 1.3 percent. Second, there is no assurance that the trends evidenced between 1970 and 1974 will continue to the end of the decade. Since the losses in the Champaign-Urbana, Rockford, and St. Louis SMSA's have been minor, and only a small portion of the 1970-80 statistics can be studied, we may once again, in 1980, observe that the long-term trends have prevailed. The reversal may, after all, be only a passing phenomenon. At this time all that can be said is that some SMSA's, which had large population increases between 1960 and 1970, have either stabilized or declined slightly (Table 2).

Table 2. Population of Illinois SMSA's, 1960-1970 and 1970-1974*

SMSA and constituent counties	Population Change 1960-1970 (%)	Population Change 1970-1974 (%)
BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL	24.5	9.5
McLean	24.5	9.5
CHAMPAIGN-URBANA	23.3	-0.2
Champaign	23.3	-0.2
CHICAGO	12.2	-0.1
Cook	7.1	-2.2
DuPage	56.6	9.6
Kane	20.5	5.2
Lake	30.3	3.1
McHenry	32.5	10.2
Will	29.3	12.9
ROCK ISLAND-MOLINE	9.8	-1.3
Henry	7.9	2.0
Rock Island	10.4	-2.4
DECATUR	5.7	0.2
Macon	5.7	0.2
PEORIA	9.1	2.9
Peoria	3.3	1.8
Tazewell	18.9	4.5
Woodford	14.0	4.1
ROCKFORD	18.2	-0.6
Boone	25.2	4.1
Winnebago	17.6	-1.1
ST. LOUIS	10.8	-0.9
Clinton	17.8	4.4
Madison	11.7	-0.6
Monroe	21.4	0.6
St. Clair	8.7	-1.7
SPRINGFIELD	9.8	3.8
Menard	4.7	8.9
Sangamon	10.1	3.5

*Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1970 and 1974.

While some SMSA's have declined in population since 1970, many counties within declining SMSA's continue to grow (Table 2). In fact, some of these counties have experienced quite a high level of growth. The Chicago SMSA is one such example. Cook County has lost population since 1970 (-2.2 percent), but every other county comprising the SMSA has had a sizable population growth. There are other similar examples, all of which suggest that one should not interpret an overall loss or gain for an SMSA to mean that every constituent county has either lost or gained population.

ILLINOIS AND THE REGION

Data for the North Central Region of the nation, of which Illinois is a geographic part, illustrate the population trend changes which have been identified at the national level. Since 1970 both SMSA and non-SMSA populations have grown (Table 3), but the level of growth for non-SMSA's has been substantially greater (4.0 percent) than for the SMSA's (0.7 percent). A further breakdown of the non-SMSA growth between adjacent and nonadjacent counties shows while both grew in population, nonadjacent counties had a higher level of growth (5.1 percent) than did the nonmetropolitan counties adjacent to SMSA's (3.3 percent). For the region, the trend is clear: since 1970, growth in nonmetropolitan and, in particular, growth in nonadjacent, nonmetropolitan counties has outpaced population growth in metropolitan counties.

On the basis of these population measures, Illinois does not mirror the dominant regional and national trends (Table 3). Of all the states in the region, Illinois has experienced the smallest population growth (0.2 percent) since 1970, one of the lowest increases in SMSA population (0.1 percent), and the smallest growth in non-SMSA population (0.4 percent). Adjacent and nonadjacent counties have grown at an identical rate of 0.4 percent.

SUMMARY

Compared with population changes at national and regional levels, Illinois is a mixed case. On the one hand, many of the counties which were formerly losing population,

Table 3. Regional Population Changes, by Residence, 1970-1974*

	Population Change 1970-74 (%)	SMSA population change, 1970-1974 (%)	Non-SMSA population change, 1970-1974 (%)	Non-metro. adjacent pop. change 1970-74 (%)	Non-metro. non-adjacent pop. change 1970-74 (%)
Indiana	2.6	2.1	3.5	3.6	3.2
Michigan	2.4	1.2	8.4	5.9	10.9
Ohio	0.8	0.1	3.7	3.4	5.2
Wisconsin	3.4	2.0	5.3	4.3	6.7
Minnesota	3.0	2.3	3.9	5.0	3.3
Missouri	2.1	0.3	5.6	7.8	4.4
N. Dakota	3.1	7.4	2.5	0.7	2.8
S. Dakota	2.4	3.2	2.2	0.7	2.4
Kansas	0.9	-0.1	1.7	2.8	1.1
Nebraska	3.9	8.4	0.5	1.6	0.2
Iowa	2.8	3.3	2.5	3.7	1.7
Illinois	0.2	0.1	0.4	0.4	0.4
Total	1.5	0.7	4.0	3.3	5.1

*Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1974.

have experienced a turnaround. Among these are several nonmetropolitan counties. At the same time, many SMSA counties show considerable population growth, especially those in the Chicago, Springfield, Bloomington-Normal, and Peoria SMSA's.

Unlike the region and the nation, however, the total population of Illinois has grown very little since 1970, only 0.2 percent. The nonmetropolitan population of the state has grown more than the SMSA population, but not a great deal more. And certainly the differences in growth are not nearly what they are for the region or the nation. Thus, while Illinois exhibits some of the population reversals documented at the national and regional levels, it can more accurately be characterized as a case of very limited reversals or even one of stabilization at the present time.

If the reversals just noted, however, continue at the same or accelerated rate, then the counties involved should seriously consider the impacts these changes may have on demands for community facilities and services and the ability of private and public bodies to provide them.